

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 EB-08
NRC-05 OES-07 SOE-02 DOE-15 CEQ-01 /170 W
-----091388 202253Z /21

R 200216Z APR 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0817
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 01531

FOR EMBASSY CAPE TOWN

E.O.11652:GDS
TAGS: PORG, MNUC, SF
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION ON SOUTH
AFRICAN NUCLEAR ACTIVITY

REF: (A) USUN 01457, (B) USUN 01427, (C) STATE 092273

1. DURING WESTERN FIVE MEETING APRIL 20 ON NAMIBIA,
AMBASSADOR MCHENRY BRIEFED GROUP ON HIS RECENT DISCUSSION
WITH NIGERIAN PERMREP HARRIMAN ON SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR
ACTIVITY. HE THEN DISTRIBUTED TEXT OF NIGERIAN DRAFT SC
RESOLUTION (REF A). UK AND FRANCE REPORTED THAT THEY
HAD NOT YET APPROACHED MAURITIUS AND GABON, RESPECTIVELY,
ON THIS ISSUE PENDING AGREEMENT ON NON-PROLIFERATION
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TALKING POINTS AMONG THE FIVE. UK AND FRANCE THOUGHT
THAT BRIEFING OF FOUR BY US NON-PROLIFERATION EXPERT
SHOULD PRECEDE EFFORT TO DRAFT AGREED TALKING POINTS.
FIVE AGREED THAT, WITH REGARD TO COMPETING ACTIVITIES AT
THE UN, VISIT BY US EXPERT IN NEAR FUTURE WOULD ENCOUNTER
SCHEDULING PROBLEMS NO MATTER WHICH DATE PICKED AND
LEFT IT TO US TO SUGGEST A DATE.

2. FOUR MADE NO FURTHER COMMENT ON US DRAFT "ELEMENTS" OF SC RESOLUTION (REFS B AND C).

3. COMMENT: PERCEPTION OF LESSENERED IMMEDIACY OF SC ACTION ON SA NUCLEAR AND HEAVY NAMIBIA WORKLOAD HAVE TEMPORARILY DIVERTED ATTENTION OF FOUR FROM NUCLEAR ITEM. WHILE MISSION UNDERSTANDS THIS POSITION, WE ARE UNCOMFORTABLE WITH PROSPECT OF LETTING MATTER DRIFT FOR SEVERAL WEEKS. ACCORDINGLY, MISSION SUGGESTS THAT FIVE MEET TO HEAR DEPARTMENT'S EXPERT NEXT WEEK AND TO DRAFT AGREED TALKING POINTS AS REQUESTED BY UK AND FRANCE. FOLLOWING UK AND FRENCH DEMARCHES TO MAURITIUS AND GABON, FIVE COULD THEN DECIDE ON WHETHER AND WHEN TO SUGGEST BRIEFING BY US EXPERT OF KEY AFRICANS. MISSION RECOGNIZES THAT THIS STRATEGY COULD MEAN AN EXTRA TRIP FOR BRIEFER BUT CONSIDERING THE CRUSH OF NAMIBIA BUSINESS, RECOMMENDS IT AS SOUNDEST APPROACH. YOUNG

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